GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:542
ANSWERED ON:12.04.2017
Gauge Conversion
Nete Shri Ashok Mahadeorao

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has accorded sanction for the gauge conversion of Nagpur-Nagbhir railway line;

(b) if so, the date on which sanction for gauge conversion of the said line was given; and

(c) the time by which the gauge conversion of Nagpur-Nagbhir railway line is likely to be completed along with the reasons for the delay, if any, in execution of work?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.542 BY SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 12.04.2017 REGARDING GAUGE CONVERSION

(a) to (c): Gauge Conversion of Nagpur- Nagbhir (106 km) Narrow Gauge section of South East Central Railway was included in Rail Budget 2013-14 at an estimated cost of `401.42 crores subject to requisite clearance from the Government. Nagbhir falls on existing Gondia − Chanda Fort Broad Gauge line. Government of Maharashtra agreed to share 50% of cost of the project. The cost has been reassessed as `708.11 crores in April 2015 with Rate of Return (RoR) of (-) 7.56% with Railways bearing 100% of cost. Even after considering that 50% of the project cost will be shared by Maharashtra Government, Rate of Return (RoR) comes out to be (-) 1.52%. In view of this, Niti Aayog will have to be consulted.

During meeting of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra and Hon'ble Minister of Railways on 15.02.2016, it was decided to identify projects to be taken up under Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) Model. Government of Maharashtra (GoM) has given In Principle Consent to 9 projects for execution through Joint Venture (JV) route and Nagpur-Nagbhir Gauge Conversion is one of the identified projects. GoM has been requested for expediting incorporation of the Joint Venture (JV) company so that the project can be taken forward.

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